

MOSCOW COMMUTERS' JOYS

HIS PUNCTUALITY IN SHUTTING UP SHOP.

He Does Not Keep Open a Minute Past the Hour when he Accommodates the American Millionaire—And He Hides in the Worst Cab in All of Europe.

The man and his wife were sitting in the park of the Grand Hotel at Vevey. They had captured two broad seated chairs with comfortable backs and had placed them under the shade of the big low boughed tree that stands half way between the yacht landing and the bath house. Each of them had a Tauchnitz novel, but these silent companions of the traveler's leisure rested unopened. Neither of the two spoke. They simply sat and drank in the sun.

There had been a heavy squall the previous night. The wind had poured itself in a wild torrent out of the Rhone Valley and the lake had been transformed into a boiling expanse of furious waves.

The able steamboat General Dufour had been seen plunging bows under and hurling huge clouds of spray clear over her pilot house. The gentlemen who go about measuring the heights of waves and making scientific records have ascertained that at times the sea runs nine feet high on peaceful Lake Léman. At that squall it seemed to approach the limit.

Now it was the day after the squall and Donner's work had been beautifully accomplished. He had swung his hammer and cleared the murky atmosphere. As the man and his wife sat beneath the big tree a mild southwest wind, balmy and caressing, blew up from the direction of Geneva. The atmosphere was indescribably clear. The mountains across the lake seemed astonishingly close and the sharp corners of the little houses at St. Gingolph stood out in many shining angles.

The pink skin of a boy preparing to dive from a green rowboat half way across the lake glowed against the lambent water like some great sea rose. The blue of the sky was something for which no word has yet been made. One felt that he looked into a million fathoms of ecstatic azure. Down beyond Ouchy the slopes of the Jura mountains rose in exquisite stretches of delicate, hazy purple, through which here and there shot sudden bolts of luminous yellow greens where the sunlight fell on the mown fields.

Below these mountains and quite up to the immediate foreground the lake swam in gorgeous green tints with blue. Graceful gulls swam here and there on this magnificent surface, white and undulating. The shoulder of Mont Pelé rose from the point below River in a series of terraces made by the successive levels of the vineyards. The colors on this shoulder were all wonderful low toned drabs and greens, such as one marvels at in the pictures of Corot. They were such tints as all painters adore and which most of them make too brilliant.

At the foot of the most distant villa buried in a group of large trees. The foliage of these was many shades darker than the green on the terraced vineyards. The whole color scheme was something to remember, but as no man could perfectly point it, as no man could adequately describe it. The eye of the imagination can see it. Léman has many moods, and in most of them mists and clouds and half veiled beauties play the most conspicuous parts. Léman after a fierce squall, throwing off her seventy and seven veils and standing forth in the full splendor of her beauty, is something that one sees only once in a lifetime.

"I am glad we did not go to the square to buy books," said the wife.

"So am I," said the man, "for I remember now that it is more than 12 and less than 2."

"And between 12 and 2 all shops and banks are closed, in order that the honest population of Vevey may get its dinner."

"And it is the same in Lausanne and Zurich, which are more pretentious cities than slumbering Vevey."

"Well, the Swiss are a wise and pious nation, and their hotels are some of the numerous wonders of the earth."

"Even though the diners," commented the man, "are illegitimate offspring of the French table d'hôte."

At that moment a Lac Léman bark with two women sails, one white and the other red, swam into the centre of the picture and the man and his wife paused to absorb its effect on the general color scheme. It was much the same as that caused by the advent of a gorgeous butterfly in a garden of roses and lilies.

"There is a shop in Moscow," began the wife in the lowest tones of her fluterie voice, "in the street of the Kitaiskoi Stony where you can buy cigarettes at all hours."

"Yes," responded the man, "I think I visited that shop once myself, but all Moscow shops are not like that. The Russians, like the Swiss, are a wise and pious people, and they work to live. They do not live to work. I myself love these people, but some Americans, who wish to make use of them, do not. Fortunately very few Americans go to Moscow and it is as yet one of the unspoiled parts of Europe. The Russians are not so good as the Swiss, although I think I saw some pertinent signs of approaching civilization. What was that feminine costume I saw in the heart of the Holy City on a Sunday?"

"Oh, yes," said the wife, with a smile, "you will remember that. You saw it first. You would have seen it if it had been in a barrel."

FALSE CARDS IN AUCTION

GOOD AND BAD PLAYING IN THIS DEPARTMENT OF THE GAME.

An Instance of a Play That Won a Game—Case of Winning a Trick With a Small Card That Cost the Loss of a Game—Hands That Show the Point.

The old discussion as to whether it is better to inform your partner or deceive your adversary cannot apply to the declarer at auction, because he has no partner, and the general impression among those who have studied the subject seems to be that he should play all the false cards he can, provided they are false and not merely irregular, which makes a great difference.

The idea is that while the adversaries are signalling up their hands to each other by means of various well established conventions in the way of leads, returns and echos, the declarer should do his best to render these messages ambiguous by sending wireless words across the line of communication.

When this can be done understandingly and effectively it is usually the work of an expert, but the average player has no idea of the correct definition of a false card and imagines anything to be false that is unconventional, whether it is calculated to deceive or not. Here is a classical example of correct false carding which the beginner would do well to study, as it forms an effective contrast to the examples of alleged false cards that are to follow:

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♥ 10 8 6 2
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♠ A K
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♣ 10 3

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Z dealt and called one heart. A passed and Y overcalled with two diamonds to show that he could not support the hearts. This forced B to two no trumps, his intention being to double if either red suit declaration was persisted in. Z could not quite see how B was going to make eight tricks with three suits against him, so he doubled, which was bad policy, as it made the contract good for the game.

Z led the king of diamonds and B let it win. Z then led his fourth best spade, as he knew by his partner's bid that Y could have nothing in hearts and that his getting in on that suit was hopeless.

When B counted up his sure tricks he found that there were just seven in sight in hearts, diamonds and clubs and not one more possible under any circumstances, as a fourth heart trick was out of the question against Z's original call. The only chance for an extra trick is in spades and the only way to get it is to induce the adversaries to lead that suit three times.

Y won the spade trick with the king, which took out his only reentry and made it useless to go on with his diamonds, so he returned the six of spades. On the first trick B played the seven and on the next he played the eight.

When Z won the second round with the queen it looked as if the spades were established, as he read his partner for king, six, deuce originally, and credited him with returning the higher of two, so that the ace would drop the deuce and jack, making the nine and four good. Instead of this the jack was made good for a trick in B's hand, winning the contract and the game.

Let B play the deuce of spades to the first round and Z stops at the second round, leading a heart, and the contract is set no matter how B plays.

Many of the alleged false cards played by the beginner are calculated to inform rather than to deceive, because, paradoxical as it may seem, there are some false cards which betray the very thing the player is trying to conceal.

The most common example is the habit so many players have of winning a trick with the ace when they hold both ace and king. Some do this so persistently that it is a safe bet they do not hold the ace when they play the king; but the astonishing part of it is that they pay no attention to the circumstances under which they false card the ace and therefore fail to see that in many cases it defeats the very end they have in view.

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Z won the trick with the ace, simply because he had the habit of false carding that way, overlooking the fact that this tells B that A cannot be leading from ace queen jack and cannot have the king either, as he would lead the king if he held both king and queen.

Now, who was otherwise a very good player, saw there was nothing in the hands but the club finesse, so he led ace and jack of hearts, putting dummy in, and came through with a club. Failing to drop the king in two rounds and being unable to get dummy in again he went on with a third club, thinking B would return his partner's suit, in which Z had, as he thought, concealed the king.

This is just what B did not do. Apart from A's discard of a diamond the false card on the first trick had told B that Z had the king of diamonds to bring in the clubs with, so B made his ten of hearts and then led a small spade, making five tricks in that suit and setting the contract for 100 points.

Let Z play the king on the first trick and B would feel compelled to return the ace, which would enable A to lead from ace queen jack, and Z would have just gone game and rubber, so that the

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THE PUZZLE OF THE SOUL

INTEREST AROUSED BY PROF. MACDONALD'S ADDRESS.

The Eye, the Ear and the Brain as Instruments Played Upon by Some Influence Outside the Body—A Point at Which Material Science is Stopped Short.

LONDON, Sept. 6.—The most interesting address delivered at the recent meeting of the British Association was that of Prof. Macdonald. His use of the word soul attracted immediate attention.

In his address to the physiological section he said that he held it as probable that all the individual structures of the nervous system, and so in the brain, had just as much difference from one another in size, in shape and in function as was the outcome of that measure of purely physical experience which each of them had been subjected, and that the physiological function of each was of the simplest kind. The magnificent utility of the whole system, where the individual units had such simplicity, was due to the physically developed peculiarities of their arrangement in relation to one another, and to the receptive surfaces and motor organs of the body.

He then proceeded to the consideration of certain physical mechanisms found in the body, external to the central nervous system, mechanisms that were placed, so to speak, upon the front of that system so that they were capable rather of affecting it than of being affected by it, and this to such a degree that they must be supposed as rather assisting in the development of the central nervous system than as being assisted to their development by the central nervous system. There were, for example, the lens systems of the eyeball and the sound conducting and resonant systems of the ear.

In dealing with the central nervous system the suggestion had been made that it was developed by just such physical conditions as were transmitted through it in its adult form. An admission of this sort was not easy in regard to the eyeball. During the evolution associated with natural selection the eyeball was formed by light. It must be so. The eye was a perfect optical instrument as could be made with a full knowledge of the part played by matter in reflecting, refracting and absorbing light.

Long prior to the development of man, who at a later date acquired sufficient knowledge of these properties to aid him in the formation of crude lenses, there were to be found upon the general surface of the animal world lenses of very great perfection, in fact complete cameras. Had the first optician then known what was in him he would have been saved infinite pains, or had he known even the lens systems formed on the leaves of plants. Surely there was no escape from the statement that either external agency cognizant of light, or light itself, had formed and developed to such a state of perfection this purely optical mechanism, and that natural selection could have done no more than assist in this process.

The influence of natural selection depended upon the frequency of variations, and it was important that there was no variation that had not behind it some cause. In this special case of variation in physical arrangements it was indeed probable that the most frequent cause of variation would be exerted by physical conditions, since in this case the factors that were thus introduced by variation were not distinguished by any chemical peculiarity.

Thinking of the few possible physical causes of variation there could be little doubt that light itself would produce some variation in this optical instrument, and that the variations produced by light would be just those more likely to be adapted to the subsequent traverse of light than such as were accidentally produced by some other physical cause. Accepting such a statement they might say that in the course of development light formed the eye by its action upon such tissues as those of which the general surface of the body was composed.

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